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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
PRODUCTION AND MARKETING ADMINISTRATION
INFORMATION BRANCH
30 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco 2, California

In cooperation with the
Federal-State Market News Service

1.9422
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Cap 2

WHAT'S NEWS IN THE MARKETS?

(USDA Food Bulletin for the week ended April 7, 1950)

SAN FRANCISCO, Apr. 4--- Newtown apples and Winter Nelis pears remain the Best Buys in fruit.

In the Good Buy class this week are Imperial Valley grapefruit, lemons, and Valencia oranges from Tulare county.

Mexican bananas are a Fair Buy.

Still in the luxury class are strawberries, avocados, and pineapples.

The week's Best Buys from the vegetable bin include asparagus (better quality and lower priced), cauliflower, and dry onions, especially yellow Globes.

Artichokes are a Good Buy, along with spinach and hothouse rhubarb from Washington.

Fair Buys are cabbage, celery, peas, lettuce, and soft squash (slightly lower).

Meat --

Demand has continued slow in the San Francisco wholesale meat market for practically all classes, except cow beef which has sold readily at prices \$2.00 per hundredweight higher. The supply of veal and calf has increased by shipments from the mid-west. In the lamb division, about three-fourths of the slaughter has been spring lamb -- \$2.00 per hundredweight lower. A broadened demand cleared supplies of pork loins at unchanged prices the past week. Smoked hams have dropped \$1.00 per hundredweight, while all other pork items have held unchanged in price.

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Butter --

Butter prices are unchanged from a week ago in the San Francisco wholesale market as supplies of top grades continue fully ample for the moderate demand. A sharp curtailment in shipments of butter from the mid-west has given some relief to the heavy local production, which is around 24 percent larger than a year ago. Grades A&AA(1st Quality) butter are quoted to retailers at 64-1/2 to 67 cents per pound in cartons of 1/4-lb. prints; Grade B(2nd Quality) is quoted at 62-1/2 to 63-1/2 cents per pound in cartons of 1/4-lb. prints.

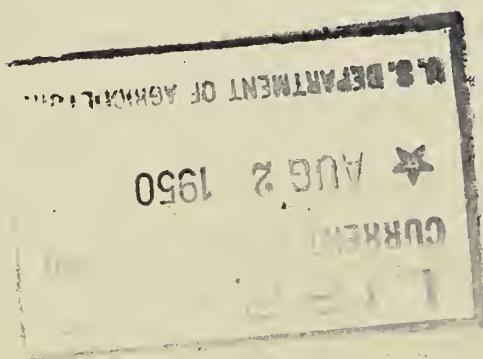
Eggs --

Pre-Easter demand has improved the market for eggs. Prices are little changed. Grade "A" Mediums in especially heavy supply have dropped 1-cent to a quotation to retailers of 39 to 40 cents per dozen in cartons. But Grade "A" Large have held unchanged at a quotation of 42 to 43 cents per dozen in cartons, as have Grade "A" Smalls at 32 to 34 cents.

Poultry --

All dressed young chickens (broilers, fryers and roasters) have advanced 1 to 2 cents per pound from a week ago, with the result that some resistance to prices has been reported in the wholesale poultry market. Hens, turkeys, squabs and rabbits are all unchanged in price, but dressed ducks have dropped 4 cents per pound. Generally, all classes are in adequate supply for the moderate demand.

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WHAT'S NEWS IN THE MARKETS?

(USDA Food Bulletin for the week ended April 14, 1950)

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SAN FRANCISCO, Apr. 11---- Artichokes have dropped in price to become a Best Buy, along with asparagus, cauliflower, dry onions (especially yellow Globes and Australian Browns), and soft squash in heavier supply and lower priced.

This week's Good Buys from the vegetable bin include carrots, lettuce, peas, and hothouse rhubarb from Washington.

Celery and spinach are Fair Buys.

In the fruit division, Newtown apples and Winter Nelis pears are still the Best Buys.

Good Buys are Imperial Valley grapefruit, small lemons, and large Valencia oranges.

Dates from Coachella Valley and bananas are Fair Buys this week.

Meat --

Trading has been somewhat uneven in the San Francisco wholesale meat market this past week, with spring lamb, smoked and canned ham and picnics in best demand. Lightweight beef and lamb and Good veal and calf carcasses have been in light supply. In contrast, beef loins and ribs have been in large supply. The few price changes included a \$1.00 to \$2.00 per hundredweight hike on beef rounds, loins, and chucks; a \$1.00 to \$2.00 per hundredweight price drop on fresh calf carcasses; and a \$2.00 per hundredweight drop on spring lamb and smoked picnics.

Butter --

Ample supplies of butter are in slow demand in the San Francisco wholesale market. Prices are unchanged from a week ago, with Grades A&AA(1st Quality) quoted to retailers at 64-1/2 to 67 cents per pound in cartons of 1/4-lb. prints, and Grade B(2nd Quality) quoted at 62-1/2 to 63-1/2 cents. Although western butter production for the week ended April 6 gained only 1-percent over the previous week,

Eggs --

Egg prices, too, are unchanged from a week ago. Grade "A" Large are quoted to retailers at 42 to 43 cents per dozen in cartons; Grade "A" Mediums at 39 to 40 cents per dozen; and Grade "A" Smalls at 32 to 34 cents per dozen. Despite a good Easter demand, supplies are plentiful. Surplus eggs continue to move into cold storage.

Poultry --

With Easter past, demand for dressed poultry has slackened off to a slow pace. Prices are on a downward trend, with broilers selling 1-cent per pound lower, as are all weights of fryers. Leghorn hens (all weights) are down 2 cents per pound below a week ago. Supplies are more than ample.

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WHAT'S NEWS IN THE MARKETS?

(USDA Food Bulletin for the week ended April 21, 1950)

SAN FRANCISCO, Apr. 18---- The Best Buy line-up from the vegetable bin includes asparagus, round-type cabbage, celery, and dry onions (especially yellow Globes and Australian Browns).

Good Buys this week are carrots, artichokes (slightly higher), cauliflower (slightly higher), peas, spinach, soft squash, and hothouse rhubarb from Washington.

Lettuce is a Fair Buy.

In the fruit division, the winter fruits are slowly but surely giving way to spring arrivals. The first cherries (known as early Chinese or Japanese cherries) have arrived from Vacaville. They're very small. Strawberries are now coming in from practically all districts of the state -- San Jose, Fresno, Watsonville, San Luis Obispo, San Diego, Los Angeles. And we've had some pineapples arriving by boat from Hawaii, as well as some mangoes from Florida.

While there are ^{no}/so-called Best Buys among the fruits, there are several Good Buys -- including Winter Nelis pears, Mexican bananas, Newtown apples, and Imperial Valley grapefruit.

Lemons are a Fair Buy, along with oranges (both Valencias and Navels).

Meat --

Generally, trading has been slow to fair in the San Francisco wholesale meat market. Beef has been in best demand, with beef loins and ribs selling \$1.00 to \$2.00 higher per hundredweight. Supplies of veal and calf have been more than ample for demand at unchanged prices, while fresh pork cuts have moved slowly. Attempts early last week to boost the price of spring lamb \$2.00 per hundredweight failed, and spring lamb dropped \$2.00 per hundredweight. All other classes have held unchanged in price from a week ago.

MORE

Butter --

There's a somewhat better demand for generous supplies of butter. Western production for the week ended April 15 gained another 6 percent to a level 14 percent above a year ago. Prices are unchanged from last week, with Grades A&AA (1st Quality) quoted to retailers at 64-1/2 to 67 cents per pound in cartons of 1/4-lb. prints, and Grade B(2nd Quality) at 62-1/2 to 63-1/2 cents per pound in cartons of 1/4-lb. prints.

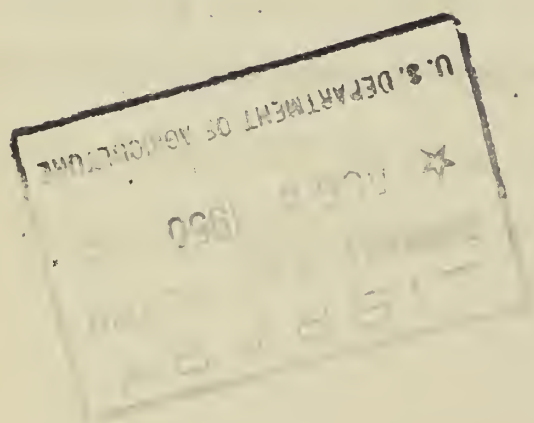
Eggs --

In the egg market, volume of receipts of local eggs indicates that the production seasonal peak is here. Following the very good demand that existed for Easter, demand has been only fair. As a result, surpluses of all sizes have been moving into storage. Prices are unchanged from last week. Quotations to retailers are: Grade "A" Large, 42 to 43 cents per dozen in cartons; Grade "A" Medium, 39 to 40 cents; and Grade "A" Small, 32 to 34 cents.

Poultry --

Even though demand has been only moderate for dressed poultry since Easter, supplies of all sizes of fryers and roasters weighing 4 pounds and over have been short of demand. Prices have fluctuated somewhat, so that broilers are down 1-cent per pound, small fryers are up 1-cent, and heavy hens are down 1-cent per pound from a week ago. Supplies of squabs are also short of full demand, but prices have held unchanged. All other classes are unchanged from a week ago.

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WHAT'S NEWS IN THE MARKETS?

(USDA Food Bulletin for the week ended April 28, 1950)

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SAN FRANCISCO, Apr. 25---Probably the best news about fruits this week is that the first Imperial Valley cantaloups have arrived in the market. They're small, and prices are high, but it means that the cantaloup season will soon be here.

Good Buys of the week are Winter Nelis pears and Mexican bananas.

Among the Fair Buys are strawberries, lemons, oranges, grapefruit from Imperial and Coachella valleys, and Newtown apples.

Lettuce has dropped in price to become a Best Buy, along with cauliflower, peas, dry onions, and cabbage.

Good Buys include soft squash, carrots, hothouse rhubarb, and tomatoes (lower).

Among the week's Fair Buys are higher priced asparagus, artichokes (higher), and Valentine snap beans from the Coachella Valley.

Meat --

Last week's warm weather upset somewhat the fairly good demand for meat in the San Francisco wholesale market. Good grade beef moved well, however, and practically all of the 400 head of Good and Choice Junior Livestock Show carcasses moved into retail channels. Moderate supplies of spring lamb, veal and calf failed to clear completely, but pork cuts sold surprisingly well -- considering the higher temperatures. Prices were little changed from the previous week, although Good steer beef advanced \$1.00 per hundredweight. Good hindquarters and rounds of beef also went up \$1.00 to \$2.00 per hundredweight, while ewe mutton dropped \$1.00 to \$2.00 per hundredweight. Smoked hams gained \$1.00 per hundredweight. Refined lard packed in 1-lb. cartons dropped 50 cents per hundredweight.

MORE

Butter

In the San Francisco wholesale market an improved demand for Grade B(90 Score) butter upped the quotation to retailers 1-cent to a level of 63-1/2 to 64-1/2 cents per pound in cartons of 1/4-lb. prints. Top grades held unchanged, with Grades A&AA(1st Quality) quoted to retailers at 64-1/2 to 67 cents. Western production has continued to increase.

Eggs

With local egg production at a high point for the season, supplies are fully ample for the moderate demand. Surplus eggs are moving into storage. Prices are unchanged from a week ago, with Grade "A" Large quoted to retailers at 42 to 43 cents per dozen in cartons; Grade "A" Mediums at 39 to 40 cents; and Grade "A" Smalls at 32 to 34 cents per dozen in cartons.

Poultry

Higher prices for dressed poultry have met with some resistance in the San Francisco wholesale market, but demand has continued fairly good. Demand has increased for broilers and hens due to higher prices on other classes of young chickens. Broilers are up 1-cent per pound from a week ago, while small fryers are up 2 cents, and large fryers and roasters are 3 cents higher. All other classes are unchanged.

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